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Docket No. 49273

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9/9/01**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Jürgen Pandel; Gero Bäse; and Norbert Örtel

Express Mail Label No.: EL196831827US

For: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR MOTION ESTIMATION IN A
DIGITIZED PICTURE HAVING PIXELSAssistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicants file herewith the above application. Please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims.

11. A method for motion estimation in a digitized image having pixels, comprising:
grouping pixels in picture blocks,
in which the pixels are grouped to form at least one first picture area and one second
picture area;

wherein first motion estimation is carried out in a first search area for at least one picture
block in the first picture area to determine a first motion vector whereby movement of the first
picture block is described in comparison to the first picture block in a preceding predecessor
picture and/or in comparison to the first picture block in a subsequent successor picture;

wherein second motion estimation is carried out in a second search area for at least one
second picture block in the second search area to determine a second motion vector whereby
movement of the second picture block is described in comparison to the second picture block in a
preceding predecessor picture and/or in comparison to the second picture block in a subsequent
successor picture;

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